

TELEGRAM

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482E ARA7521

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ACTION INR-1P

INFO RF-D1 ARA-B4 OAS-D1 RPP1-D1 ECF-D1 PFC-D1 NECA-D1 DCEN-D1
 ELSA-D2 RPP2-D1 SIGN-D1 FEIC-D1 REG-D1 DIR2-D1
 /B18 A2 YC

INFO OCT-00 ARA-BE SSO-00 AMAD-D1 PH-00 INRE-00 /B30 W
 -----353166 052319Z /3E

O 052319Z SEP 83
 FM USDAO SAN SALVADOR ES
 TO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECTION B1 OF B2 SAN SALVADOR ES 05087

NOFORN

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 829 0346 83

PASS: (U) DIA HOT BDI; SECSTATE ARA FOR AME PICKERING

COUNTRY: (U) EL SALVADOR (ES)

SUBJ: IIR 6 829 0346 83/ ESAT MAY ASK US FOR
 RECONNAISSANCE - SURVEILLANCE CAPABILITY (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFO REPORT, NOT FINALLY
 EVALUATED INTEL.

DDI: (U) 830731

RQS: (U) M-4BX-22268

TO FORWARD COMBAT UNITS COULD BE USED TO SATURATE THE
 COUNTRYSIDE, FLYING LOW ENOUGH AND SLOW ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY
 THE ENEMY, DESTROY HIM, OR CALL IN ADDITIONAL FIREPOWER
 OR FORCES FOR THAT PURPOSE.

2. (C/NF) SOURCE STATED FURTHER THAT THE SURVEILLANCE
 PACKAGE WAS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AND THAT IT HAD BEEN
 DETERMINED (NF) THAT THE ESAT WOULD USE THE FOLLOWING:

AMOUNT	ITEM	COST
150	P-3B AUSTIN-HAWK SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT	DOLS 6,750,000
150	SPARE AIRCRAFT ENGINES	DOLS 130,000
100	AIRCRAFT-MOUNTED TV CAMERA SYSTEMS	DOLS 1,750,000
400	M-30 AIRCRAFT-MOUNTED MACHINEGUNS	DOLS 570,000
		TOTAL: DOLS 9,200,000

3. (C/NF) IF ACQUIRED, THESE AIRCRAFT WOULD NOT
 NECESSITATE MORE AIR FORCE/ARMY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.
 PILOTS, RECRUITED FROM THE ENLISTED RANKS, COULD BE
 TRAINED IN 3 MONTHS.

4. (C/NF) SOURCE STATED THAT AMEMBASSADOR STONE TOLD HIM
 TO MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST FOR MONEY FROM A SPECIAL DEFENSE
 ACQUISITION FUND CONTROLLED BY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
 CASPAR WEINBERGER, AND ASSURED HIM IT WOULD BE FAVORABLY
 CONSIDERED.

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SUMMARY: (C/NF) 830731, RD MET [] IN HIS QUARTERS
 AT LATTER'S REQUEST. [] ARRIVED AND OVER DRINKS
 EXPLAINED THAT, WORKING AS A REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE ESAT,
 HE HAD PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO THE US DURING AUGUST TO SEE
 SECDEF CASPAR W. WEINBERGER. THE TRIP HAD THE APPROVAL OF
 HONORABLE CARLOS EUGENIO (VIDES) CASANOVA, AND []
 WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE ES MILITARY ATTACHE, COLONEL
 GUSTAVO MARTINEZ (1154221) DURING THE MEETING. []
 STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN AUTHORIZED TO REQUEST FUNDS FROM
 THE US TO PURCHASE A RECONNAISSANCE-SURVEILLANCE PACKAGE
 FOR THE ESAT. BECAUSE PRESIDENT MASANA VETOED IT FOR THE
 TIME BEING, THE PROJECT IS CURRENTLY "ON HOLD."

TEXT: 1. (C/NF)

AMONG THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE
 AMEMBASSADOR RICHARD STONE AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
 FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WILLIAM SNYDER. A RETIRED
 US AIR FORCE GENERAL (NF) BRIEFED THOSE PRESENT ON A NEW
 CONCEPT FOR COUNTERGUERRILLA OPERATIONS AND A WEAPONS
 SYSTEM TO MAKE IT WORK. [] STATED THAT THE BRIEFER
 SAID THAT THE KEY TO DEFEATING THE INSURGENTS IS A WELL-
 DEVELOPED AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AND RECONNAISSANCE
 CAPABILITY--SOMETHING THE ESAT LACKED. THE LONG RANGE
 RECONNAISSANCE PATROLS, WHILE GOOD, ARE NOT ENOUGH TO DO
 THE JOB. ACCORDING TO THE BRIEFER, A NUMBER OF
 INEXPENSIVE, LIGHTLY ARMORED SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT
 (SIMILAR IN CONFIGURATION TO CROP DUSTER PLANES) ASSIGNED

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Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

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ACTION INR-10

EOT

INFO RF-01 ARA-04 OAS-01 RPP1-01 ECP-01 PPC-01 NECA-01 DCEN-01
ELSA-02 RFP2-01 SIOM-01 REIC-01 REG-01 DIR2-01
/D18 AD YC

INFO OCT-02 ARA-02 SSO-00 AMAD-01 PH-02 INRE-00 /D36 W
-----353177 062319Z /36

O 062312Z SEP 83

FM USDAO SAN SALVADOR ES

TO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 SAN SALVADOR ES 06067

NOFORN

SERIAL: (U) IIR 6 629 0345 83

PASS: (U) DIA NOT BOY; SECSTATE ARA FOR AMB PICKERING

COUNTRY: (U) EL SALVADOR (ES)

SUBJ: IIR 6 629 0345 83/ ESAF MAY ASK US FOR

5. (C/NF) THIS INFORMATION WAS PASSED TO MOD CARLOS EUGENIO (VIDES) CASANOVA WHO, IN TURN, DIRECTED [] TO PREPARE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST TO SECRETARY WEINBERGER FOR HIS SIGNATURE. [] VISITED RO SOCIALLY 830731, INFORMED HIM OF THE LETTER'S CONTENTS, AND EXPLAINED THAT THE CDR, USMILGP HAD BEEN INFORMED.

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6. (C/NF) 830806, RO MADE AN OFFICIAL CALL TO THE MOD'S OFFICE ON ANOTHER MATTER. DURING THE COURSE OF CONVERSATION, MOD VIDES CASANOVA MENTIONED THE PROPOSED PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT, STATING THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH PRESIDENT MAGANA, WHO FELT THAT IT WAS INOPPORTUNE TO REQUEST IT AT THIS TIME, BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE DONE LATER.

7. (C/NF) 830815, [] INFORMED RO THAT HE HAD CONTACTED "THE CRIMINALS INVOLVED IN WASHINGTON" (NF1) ABOUT THE DELAY. THEY ALLEGEDLY TOLD HIM TO GET THE MOD TO SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTENT.

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COMMENTS: (C/NF) DAO VIEWS THIS WHOLE MATTER WITH SKEPTICISM. AS A FIGHTING FORCE ENGAGED IN A WAR WHILE ATTEMPTING TO MODERNIZE ITS TACTICS AND TECHNIQUES, THE ESAF CONTINUES TO IMPROVE. IN RO'S OPINION, THE ESAF HAS NEVER HAD A SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH FINDING THE ENEMY. MOST DEPARTMENTAL COMMANDERS CAN PINPOINT THE LOCATIONS OF ENEMY CONCENTRATIONS WITHOUT HESITATION. THE CONTINUING CHALLENGE FOR THE ESAF IS TO "GO" TO THE SOURCE, FOR SMALL UNIT COMMANDERS TO AGGRESSIVELY CLOSE WITH THE ENEMY AND DESTROY HIM. IF SUCH A CAPABILITY COULD BE IMPORTED IT WOULD BE A MUCH BETTER INVESTMENT, ALL THINGS CONSIDERED. ACCORDINGLY, ANEME WOULD NOT RECOMMEND ESAF PURCHASE OF THE RECONNAISSANCE PACKAGE AT THIS TIME.

PROJ: (U) N/A

COLL: (U) NONE

INSTR: (U) US NO

PREP: (U) JOHN A. CASH, COL, USA, DATT

APPR: (U) JOHN A. CASH, COL, USA, DATT

EVAL: (U) NO, REL TO: NONE

ENCL: (U) N/A

DISSEM: (U) N/A

WARNING: (U) NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

DECL: OADR

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